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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of: **INOUE, Masaru, et al.**

Group Art Unit: 1725

Serial No.: 10/646,818

Examiner: **Samuel M. Heinrich**

Filed: **August 25, 2003**

**P.T.O. Confirmation No.: 1815**

For. **THIN PLATE FORMATION METHOD, THIN PLATE AND SUSPENSION  
CORRECTION APPARATUS, AND CORRECTION METHOD**

### **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

**Attn: Group Director**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

April 28, 2006

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each document is attached.

Also attached to this Information Disclosure Statement is a copy of a Chinese Office Action dated March 31, 2006, relating to a counterpart application. Also attached to this Information Disclosure Statement is an English translation of the Chinese Office Action dated March 31, 2006. The Chinese Office Action, dated March 31, 2006, cites CN 1336664 and JP10-269538A.

05/01/2006 KBETEMAI 00000030 10646818

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Each item of information listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Each item of information listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this communication was not received by any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider all documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the Information Disclosure Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b).

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the subject application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the subject application.

U.S. Appln Serial No.: 10/646,818

A check is attached hereto which covers the \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p).

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee (or credit any overpayment) associated with this Information Disclosure Statement to our Deposit Account No. 01-2340.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, KRATZ, QUINTOS,  
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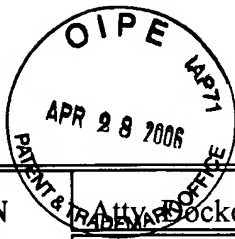
DRC/llf  
Atty. Docket No. **031058**  
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1725 K Street, N.W.  
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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures: \$180.00 fee; PTO 1449; refs (2); Chinese Office Action dated March 31, 2006;  
English-language translation of the Office Action



**INFORMATION  
DISCLOSURE  
CITATION  
PTO-1449**

Socket No. 031058

Serial No. 10/646,818

Applicant(s): INOUE, Masaru, et al.

Filing Date: August 25, 2003

Group Art Unit: 1725

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initial	Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)
_____	AA					
_____	AB					
_____	AC					
_____	AD					
_____	AE					

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
_____ AF CN 1336664 A	02/20/2002	China	Yes-Abstract.
_____ AG 10-269538	09/10/1998	Japan	Yes-Abstract.
_____ AH			
_____ AI			
_____ AJ			

**OTHER DOCUMENTS**

_____ AK	
_____ AL	
Examiner	Date Considered